

# Preventing *Fire* in your Apartment



## Cooking

Cooking equipment is the leading cause of apartment fires.

- ✓ Never leave cooking unattended.
- ✓ Keep stove top and oven clean and grease free.



- ✓ Remove all combustibles, like paper bags from the area around the stove.

## Heating Equipment

Heating Equipment is the second leading cause of apartment fires.

- ✓ When using space or base board heaters provide at least a 36 inch clearance from combustibles.



- ✓ Chimneys and heating systems should be cleaned and serviced at least annually.
- ✓ Never use charcoal or unvented appliances like gas stoves to heat your apartment.

## Smoking/Ashes

- ✓ Use sturdy non-tip ashtrays.
- ✓ Never smoke in bed or when you are tired.
- ✓ Charcoal briquettes can remain hot for several days. Cool with water and place in metal containers with a lid.
- ✓ Cool ashes and cigarette butts with water. Dispose in metal containers with lid.

## Matches/Lighters/Flammable liquids

Children + Matches = FIRE

- ✓ Unattended children can be fire setters. Report suspicious activity to the Police Department.
- ✓ Store matches and lighters out of sight and reach for children.
- ✓ Gasoline, paints, thinners, and other flammable liquids should never be stored indoors.



Store Matches up High

## Recommendations

- ✓ Obtain Renters Insurance - apartment owners insurance **rarely** covers the contents of individual apartments.
- ✓ Gas grills on balconies cause deadly fires and generally are not allowed. Contact the Fire Prevention Bureau at 441-7791 for more details.
- ✓ Provide sturdy, deep, non-tip ash trays for your balcony.
- ✓ Purchase a Carbon Monoxide detector to protect you from this deadly odorless gas.

**Life Safety is Everyone's business - Be Fire Safety Conscious!**